

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 9-24 are presently active; Claims 1 - 8 and 25-45 have been presently cancelled without prejudice. No new matter has been added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-6, 8, and 25-45 were rejected as being anticipated by Kubo et al (U.S. Pat. No. 5,828,461). Claim 7 was rejected as being unpatentable over Kubo et al. Claims 9-24 were indicated as being allowable.

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the indication of allowance for Claims 9-24. In order to expedite allowance, the remaining claims have been canceled.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the above discussions, the outstanding grounds for rejection are believed to have been overcome. The application as amended herewith is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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